GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3155
ANSWERED ON:11.05.2006
MANNING OF LEVEL CROSSINGS
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Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of railway level crossings in the country still remain unmanned resulting in rail accidents;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the targets to man such unmanned level crossings during the last three years have been achieved;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the details of unmanned level crossings proposed to be manned during 2006-07 alongwith their locations, Zone/State-wise; and

(f) the time by which all unmanned level crossings are likely to be manned?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAIJ. RATHWA)

(a)& (b) No, Sir. There were 18451 unmanned level crossings as on 1.4.2005 (excluding canal crbs.iing& and `D` class cattle crossings). However, existence of unmanned level crossings is not the cause of accidents at unmanned level crossings. Accidents occur due to negligence of road users in following the provisions of Motor Vehicle Act.

(c) to (f) As per extant rules, in case an unmanned level crossing provided initially and maintained at the cost of the railways needs manning/ upgrading/posting of additional gatekeeper due to increase in road traffic, the cost both initial capital as well as capitalized cost of annual recurring maintenance and operational cost has to be borne by the State Government /Road Authority concerned. However, keeping in view the grave consequences of accidents at unmanned level crossings, Railway have decided to man vulnerable level crossings based on the traffic volume and visibility conditions at the unmanned level crossings for which railways have laid down the under mentioned criteria:-

Category-I - Clear visibility level crossings where Train Vehicle Unit (TVU) is more than 6000 AND Road Vehicles more than 180
Category-II - Restricted visibility level crossings where Train Vehicle Unit (TVU) is more than 6000 AND Road Vehicles more than 120.
Category-III - Restricted visibility level crossings where Train Vehicle Unit (TVU) is between 3000-6000.

Further, it has been decided that no manning of any unmanned level crossing shall be done if motor vehicles do not ply regularly.

Manning of Category-III will be considered once manning of first two categories is over. Priority to be followed will be route-wise, `A` route followed by `B`, `C, (D` Spl.`D`, `E Spl.` and `E`.

Also, if any unmanned level crossing gets involved in more than 3 accidents in 3 years, it should be manned immediately irrespective of the category to which it belongs.

As on 1.4.2005, there were 1018 unmanned level crossings in the country qualifying the above criteria out of which 291 level crossings have already been manned during 2005-06, There is a proposal to man 369 unmanned level crossings during 2006-07.

Traffic census at Level crossings is conducted as per laid down procedure and level crossing`s qualifying for manning/upgradation as per laid down criteria are sanctioned for marming/ upgradatlcri. Efforts are made to man/upgrade as many level crossings as possible on year to year basis. Number of level crossings manned during the last three years (zone-wise) and number of level crossings proposed to be manned during 2006-07 is asunder:

RAILWAY	NUMBER OF LEVEL CROSSINGS MANNED DURING LAST THREE YEARS.			NUMBER OF LEVEL CROSSINGS PROPOSED FOR MANNING DURING 2006-07
	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	

CENTRAL	0	0	6	0
EASTERN	0	11	11	1
EAST CENTRAL	0	21	10	10
EAST COAST	0	20	22	26
NORTHERN	0	10	43	80
NORTH CENTRAL	2	24	2	15
NORTHEASTERN	34	24	21	40
NORTH EAST FRONTIER	0	6	14	0
NORTH WESTERN	7	18	5	25
SOUTHERN	13	5	51	60
SOUTH CENTRAL	8	15	37	27
SOUTHEASTERN	9	4	2	3
SOUTH EAST CENTRAL	9	13	19	3
SOUTHWESTERN	0	12	22	21
WESTERN	0	4	26	53
WEST CENTRAL	13	3	0	5
TOTAL	95	190	291	369